Potomac Heritage Trail

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail



Explore Four National Natural Landmarks

National Natural Landmarks are the best examples of biological and geological features in both public and private ownership; four can be found within the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail corridor. For more information, see: http://www.nature.nps.gov/nnl/index.cfm.



Ferncliff Peninsula Natural Area

Located within Ohiopyle State Park on the Youghiogheny River, the Ferncliff Peninsula Natural Area is one of the best examples of a typical late-succession forest in the Allegheny Mountains.

Location: Fayette County, PA

Acres: 160

Ownership: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Sugar Loaf Mountain



Sugar Loaf Mountain provides evidence regarding age and structural relationships of rocks in the Piedmont biophysiographic province. The site appears to be either an outlier to the east of the main mass of the Catoctin Mountain, or a root remnant of the ancient Appalachia land mass.

Location: Frederick County, MD; Montgomery County, MD

Acres: 3,137

Ownership: Private

Caledon Natural Area

Caledon Natural Area is one of the best examples of oak-tulip poplar-dominated virgin upland forest in the country.

Location: King George County, VA

Acres: 302

Ownership: Commowealth of Virginia

More information: http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/cal.shtml



Cranesville Swamp Nature Sanctuary



Cranesville Swamp Nature Sanctuary occupies a natural bowl where cool, moist conditions yield plant and animal communities more common in northern latitudes.

Location: Garrett County, MD; Preston County, WV

Acres: 1,795

Ownership: Private

More information:

http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/westvirginia/preserves/art1202.html